



# Press Release

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**May 25, 2005**

**CONTACT:** Jon Myers, Cal/EPA: 916.324.9670

## **California's Hydrogen Highway Network Blueprint Plan Released** *Vision to Invest in Our Future*

The California Environmental Protection Agency today announced the formal release of the California Hydrogen Highway Network Blueprint Plan (CA H2 Net) that calls for the development of a network of hydrogen stations throughout California to help accelerate the transition to a sustainable hydrogen economy. The Blueprint Plan was submitted to Governor Schwarzenegger in early March of this year, and after careful review, the Governor has endorsed the Blueprint Plan Advisory Panel's recommendations for advancing the vision laid out in his hydrogen executive order.

The CA H2 Net Executive Order signed by Governor Schwarzenegger last year launched a process for addressing California's future needs in the areas of air quality, public health, energy security, and national security. With escalating energy prices, increased dependence on imported oil and the nation looking to develop domestic sources of fuel, the Blueprint Plan moves California to the forefront of energy diversity and security. Without action to reduce California's dependence on petroleum, the state's dependence on gasoline and diesel is projected to increase by almost 50% by 2020.

"The Hydrogen Highway Blueprint Plan identifies a path that will benefit not only our environment, but our economy as well," said Cal/EPA Secretary Alan C. Lloyd. "If California is to once again lead the nation, we must seize the opportunity to leave a better future for our children where vehicles run pollution-free, resulting in cleaner air, as well as energy independence and a sustainable economy."

The first phase of the Blueprint Plan calls for development of up to 100 refueling stations and 2,000 hydrogen vehicles in the state by 2010. There are more than 40 current or planned stations throughout the state and a small number of vehicles provided by all major auto makers who are investing heavily in hydrogen vehicle technology.

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The CA H2 Net will be financed through a public-private partnership. The first stations on the CA H2 Net are already being introduced through a combination of public and private financing by partners that include the US Department of Energy, University of California at Davis, Air Products, Praxair, BP, Stuart Energy, and the South Coast AQMD.

When the three phases of implementation are completed, which will bring an expansion in hydrogen vehicles and stations, the CA H2 Net will enable motorists across the state to refuel zero-emission, hydrogen cars as conveniently as their current gasoline cars.

The Blueprint Plan may be downloaded at [www.HydrogenHighway.ca.gov](http://www.HydrogenHighway.ca.gov)

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